

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----116853 061754Z /45
O 061545Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO SECSTATE WSHDC IMMEDIATE 6196

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 MAPUTO 1078

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, MZ, US
SUBJECT: MACHEL'S TRAVEL PLANS

REF: MAPUTO 1008

1. FOLLOWING THE MEETING UK AMBASSADOR LEWEN AND I HAD THIS MORNING WITH PRESIDENT MACHEL (REPORTED SEPTTEL), PRESIDENTIAL AIDES SERGIO VIEIRA AND FERNANDO HONWANA ASKED ME TO REMAIN BEHIND TO DISCUSS PRESIDENT MACHEL'S TRIP TO 32ND UNGA. ACCORDING VIEIRA DATE STILL SUBJECT TO CHANGE BUT CURRENT SDHEDULE PROVIDES FOR A 2 OR 3 DAY VISIT TO NEW YORK SOMETIME BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 27 AND OCTOBER 2. MACHEL'S ADDRESS TO THE UNGA IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR EITHER SEPTEMBER 28 OR 29.

2. VIEIRA SAID THAT MACHEL WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT CARTER IF MEETING CAN BE ARRANGED. I SAID THAT I WAS CERTAIN PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD WISH TO MEET WITH MACHEL IF PRESIDENT CARTER'S SCHEDULE PERMITTED, BUT I KNEW THIS WAS AN EXCEEDINGLY BUSY TIME FOR PRESIDENT CARTER AND WAS NOT SURE MEETING COULD BE ARRANGED AT THIS LATE DATE.

3. MACHEL WILL BE TRAVELING IN HIS OWN AIRCRAFT WITH A
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PARTY OF APPROXIMATELY 50, INCLUDING FOREIGN MINISTER CHISSANO, MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MACHUNGO, DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION COSME, SERGIO VIEIRA AND FERNANDO HONWANA. A HALF DOZEN DIRECTORS OF OTHER MINISTRIES WILL ACCOMPANY.

4. IN ADDITION TO INQUIRING ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF MEETING

BETWEEN PRESIDENTS, VIEIRA SAID HE WOULD WELCOME SUGGESTIONS OR GUIDANCE ON HOW MOZAMBIQUE DELEGATION SHOULD MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR HOTELS, TRANSPORTATION, SECURITY, ETC. LEST HE THINK USG MIGHT BE PREPARED TO PICK UP THE TAB, I NOTED THAT USG WOULD PROVIDE SECURITY FOR PRESIDENT MACHEL BUT THAT SINCE VISIT TO NEW YORK WAS AT GPRM INITIATIVE, ARRANGEMENTS FOR HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION, ETC., WERE NORMALLY TAKEN CARE OF BY VISITING COUNTRY. HOWEVER, I SAID I WOULD SEE IF WASHINGTON MIGHT HAVE SUGGESTIONS HOW GPRM MIGHT PROCEED IN MAKING THESE ARRANGEMENTS.

5. VIEIRA SAID THAT HE AND A PARTY OF 5 OR 6 WOULD BE VISITING NEW YORK ABOUT SEPTEMBER 20 TO 21 TO WORK OUT DETAILS OF THE VISIT.

6. VIEIRA ASKED IF HE COULD MEET WITH ME SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 10 TO PURSUE DISCUSSION. HE HOPED BY THAT TIME I WOULD HAVE ANSWER FROM WASHINGTON. I SAID I WAS NOT SURE I COULD HAVE AN ANSWER BY THEN BUT I WOULD TRY.

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O 061545Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6197

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 MAPUTO 1078

EXDIS

7. COMMENT. IT CLEAR FROM MANNER OF VIEIRA PRESENTATION THAT HE (AND I WOULD IMAGINE MACHEL) ARE CONFIDENT A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER CAN AND WILL BE ARRANGED. ALTHOUGH I EMPHASIZED HOW BUSY PRESIDENT CARTER IS AT THIS TIME OF YEAR AND THAT IT SIMPLY NOT POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO SEE ALL THE HEADS OF STATE HE MIGHT LIKE TO SEE, I DO NOT THINK THIS MADE MUCH OF AN IMPACT ON VIEIRA OR HONWANA. THEY PROBABLY THINK A MEETING IS ALL BUT A CERTAINTY.

8. IT ALSO CLEAR FROM CONVERSATION THAT THE MOZAMBICANS VIEW A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER AS MORE THAN A COURTESY

CALL. THEY WILL WISH TO TALK BUSINESS: THE UK/US RHODESIAN PROPOSAL, NAMIBIA, BILATERAL US/MOZAMBIQUE RELATIONS AND POSSIBLY THE INDIAN OCEAN AND SOUTH AFRICA. OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS MACHEL HAS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS EXPRESSED HIS DESIRE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH WESTERN COUNTRIES INCLUDING US. PRESIDENT CARTER'S LETTER OF APRIL 16, 1977 MAY HAVE PROVIDED IMPETUS FOR THIS DEVELOPMENT.

9. AS INDICATED REFTTEL, I STRONGLY RECOMMEND, IF PRESIDENT CARTER'S SCHEDULE PERMITS, THAT HE INVITE PRESIDENT MACHEL TO MEET WITH HIM SOMETIME DURING MACHEL'S VISIT TO NEW YORK. VIEIRA INDICATED THAT MACHEL AND PARTY WOULD BE PREPARED TO FLY TO MIAMI OR WHEREEVER ELSE PRESIDENT CARTER MIGHT WANT TO MEET.

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10. IT IS MY JUDGMENT THAT VISIT OF MACHEL TO NEW YORK AT THIS TIME IS A GODSENT OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO SUCCESS OF OUR RHODESIAN AND NAMIBIAN INITIATIVES AND TO TAKE IMPORTANT STEP FOWARD IN IMPROVING OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. I HOPE WASHINGTON WILL SEE IT AS SUCH TOO.

11. I SHALL BE IN PRETORIA TOMORROW AND THURSDAY TO MEET MY WIFE AND FAMILY AS THEY RETURN FROM R&R AND WILL TELEPHONE ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE OR DON PETTERSON TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER FURTHER.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MAPUTO01078
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770322-0473
Format: TEL
From: MAPUTO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770995/aaaadcjk.tel
Line Count: 148
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 MAPUTO 1008
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1379183
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MACHEL'S TRAVEL PLANS
TAGS: PORG, OVIP, MZ, US, UNGA, (MACHEL, SAMORA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a81a784d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009